

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report



2022 Reporting Week 49: December 4 — December 10

This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

COVID-19 & ILI Trends

Okaloosa influenza-like illness (ILI) remains elevated although the percentage again decreased for Week 49 (current level: 4.90%; normal average: 2.0%). Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

COVID-19 levels have also increased for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level:** Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

MONKEYPOX (Updated Name Change: mpox)

The CDC urges healthcare providers to be vigilant for patients presenting to your facility with a [characteristic mpox rash](#), which can resemble and coexist with sexually transmitted infections (STIs). It is important to become familiar with [identification](#) and be prepared for [specimen collection](#). [mpox testing is available through commercial laboratories](#). Approval for testing is **NOT** required from the Department of Health (DOH) if testing through a commercial laboratory.

If **UNINSURED** patients need mpox testing, please contact DOH-Okaloosa at 850-833-9065 for consultation. The state laboratory will receive specimens for uninsured patients that meet specific criteria and are approved for testing by the DOH. Approval for testing is **required** from the DOH if testing through the state laboratory and is based on clinical presentation, exposure history, and timeline.

Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health
in Okaloosa County
Epidemiology Section**

**24/7 Disease Reporting:
850-833-9065**

Confidential Fax:

850-833-7577

okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov

COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 49 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
LOW	7.1	1.7%

PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Week 49 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
Substantial	51.3	9.3%

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: SUBSTANTIAL

Community Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
Low	<10	<5.0%
Moderate	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
High	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 49: December 4 - December 10

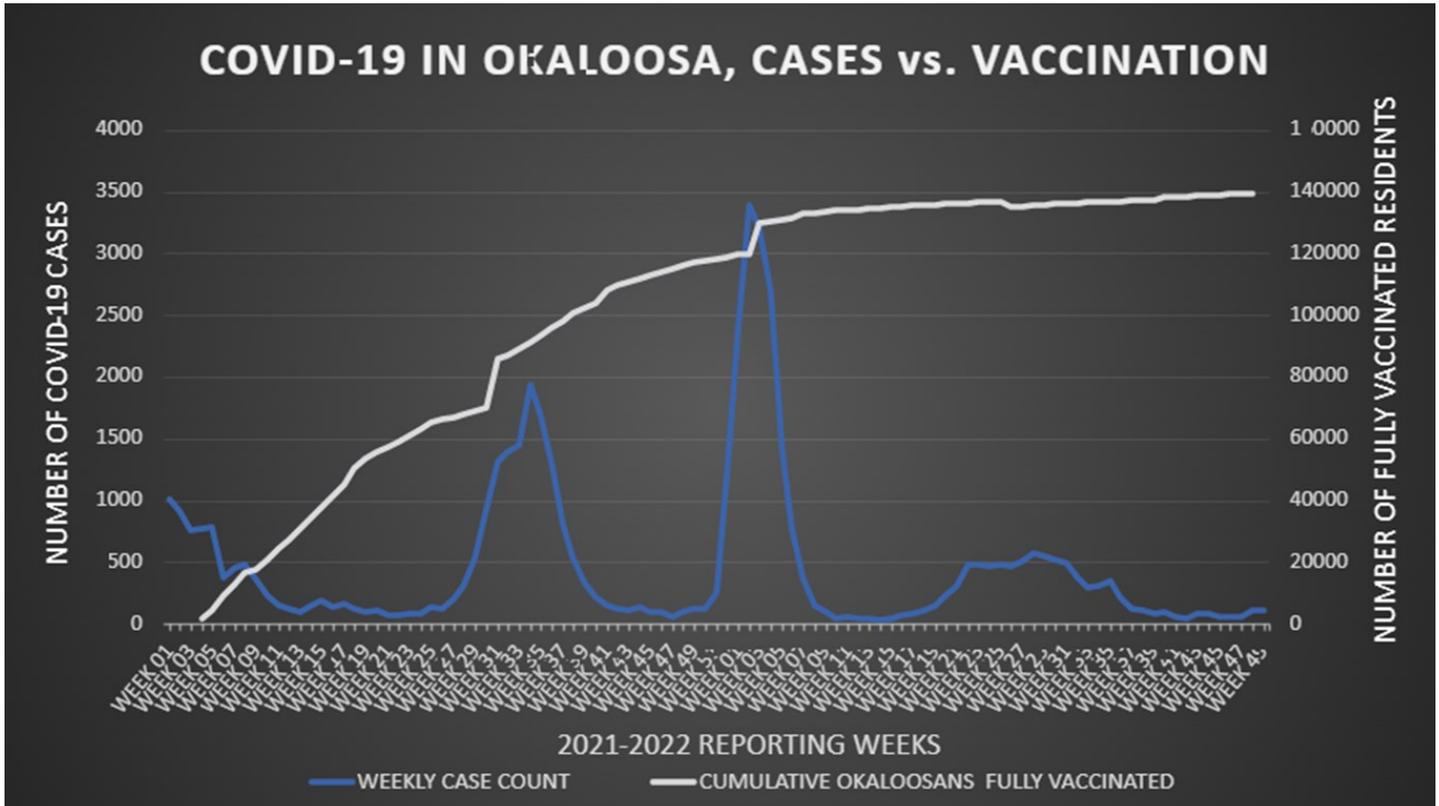


Figure 1: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 49 Review		Difference from Wk48
Resident Case Count	108	+4
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	51.3	+1.9
Average Resident Cases per Day	15.4	+0.5
Percent Positivity	9.3%	-0.4

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or NewsMedia@flhealth.gov.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	70.7%	72.9%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.5%	77.1%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.2%	78.6%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	93.8%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 49: December 4 - December 10

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

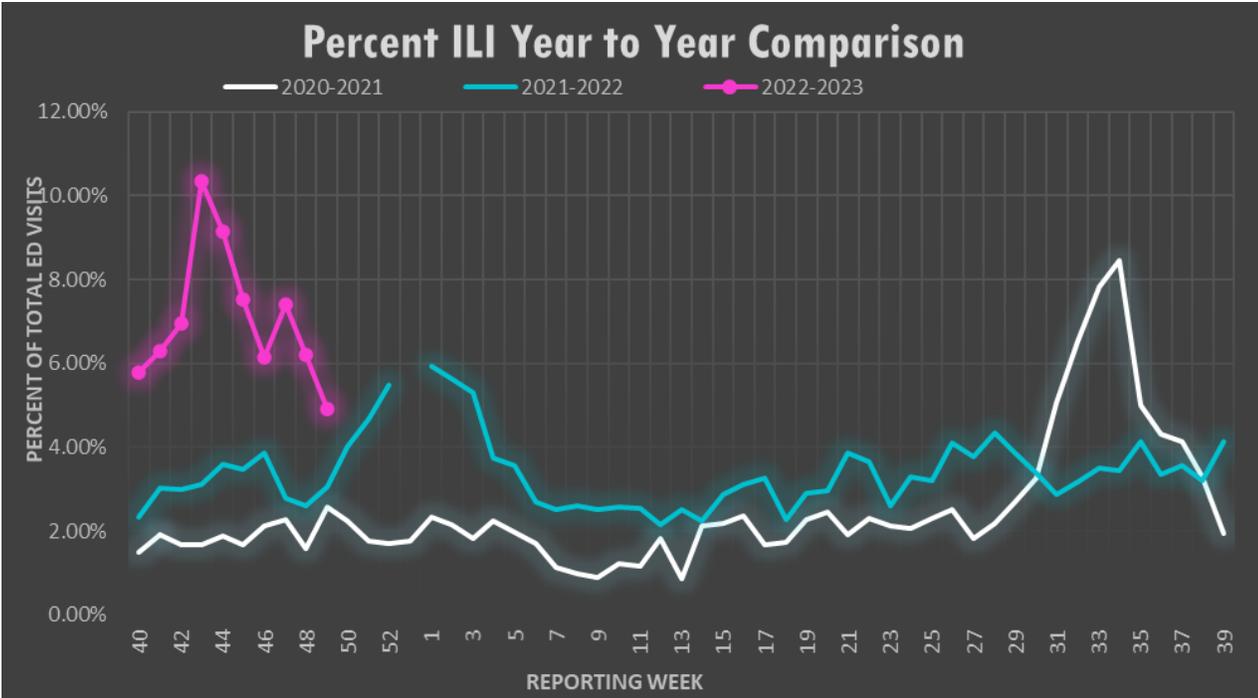


Figure 2: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 49, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported a decrease in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County decreased from 6.19% during Week 48 to 4.90% during Week 49. Flu partners reported 31 positive rapid flu tests this week (28 Influenza A and 3 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 13 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (12 Influenza A H3, 1 Influenza A H1N1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 49 is higher than that of Week 49 last year. *Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 49, 2022			
Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	22	226	9.73%
5-19	27	347	7.78%
20-34	27	535	5.05%
35-54	21	554	3.79%
55-74	25	548	4.56%
75+	3	335	0.90%

Data Source: ESSENCE

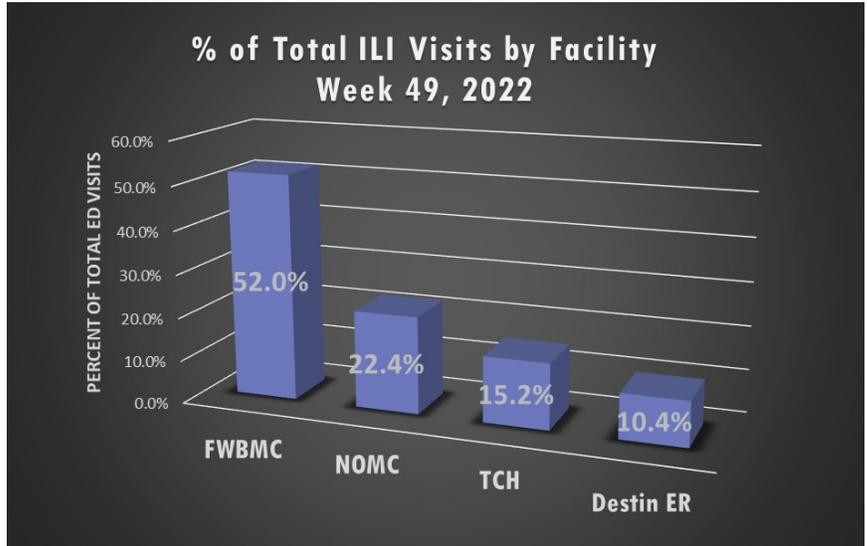
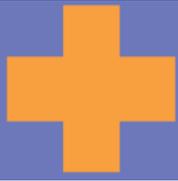


Figure 3: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=125). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

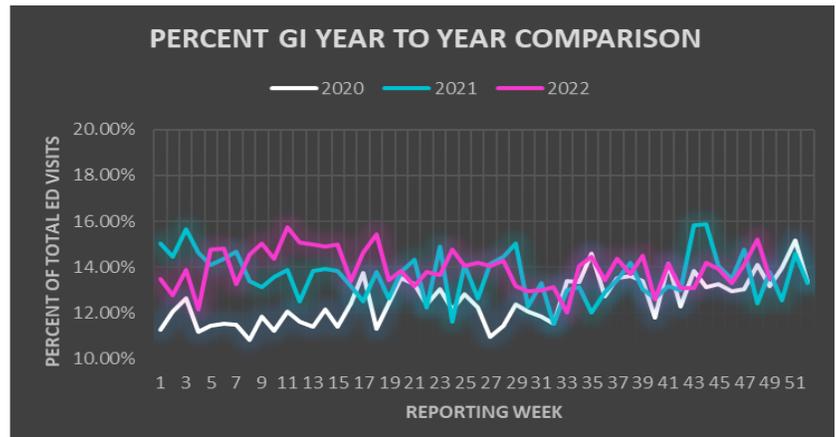
Week 49: December 4 - December 10

Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

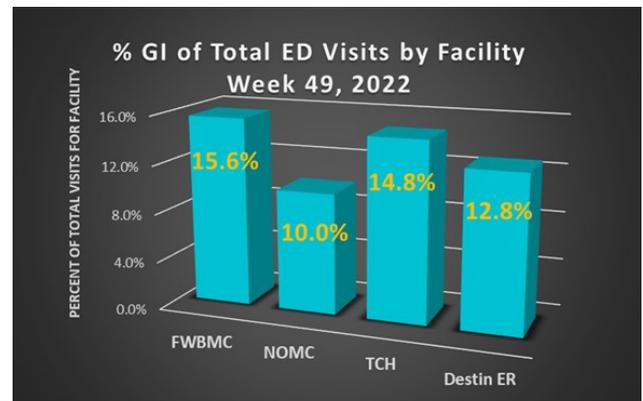


% GI by Age Group Week 49, 2022			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	25	226	11.06%
5-19	47	347	13.54%
20-34	93	535	17.38%
35-54	82	554	14.80%
55-74	63	548	11.50%
75+	35	335	10.45%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

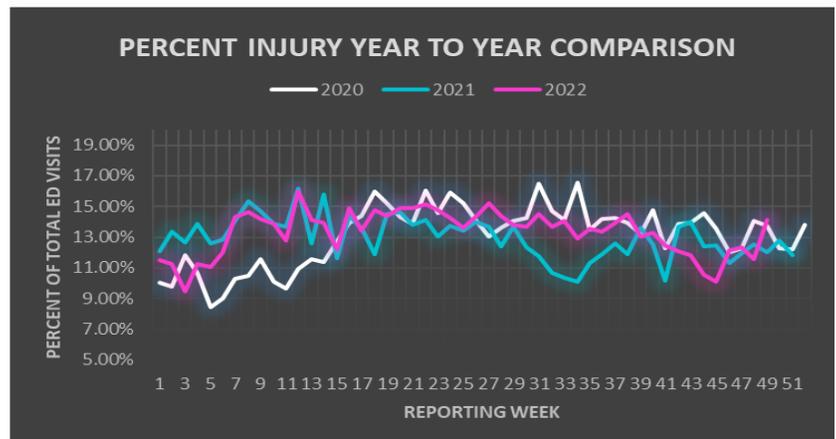


Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

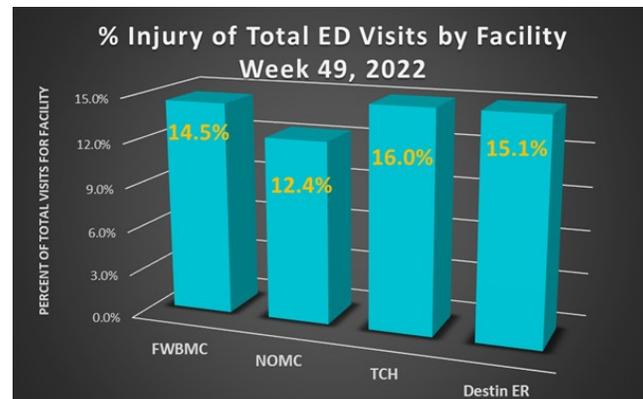


% Injury by Age Group Week 49, 2022			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	27	226	11.95%
5-19	63	347	18.16%
20-34	68	535	12.71%
35-54	72	554	13.00%
55-74	73	548	13.32%
75+	56	335	16.72%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE





Syndromic Surveillance

Week 49: December 4 - December 10

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

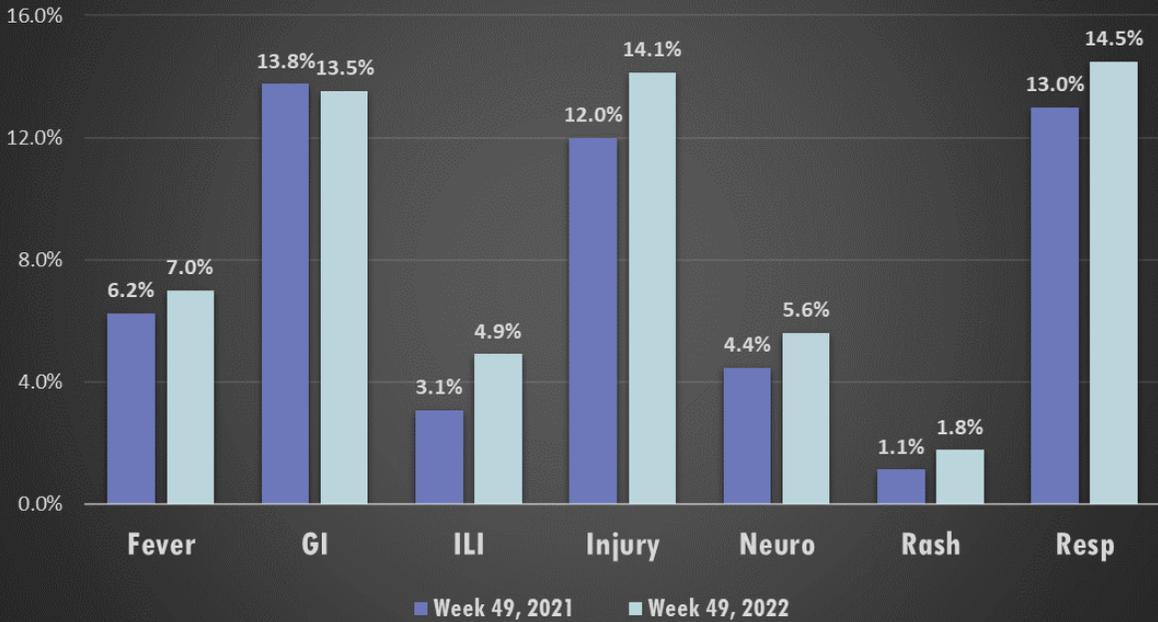
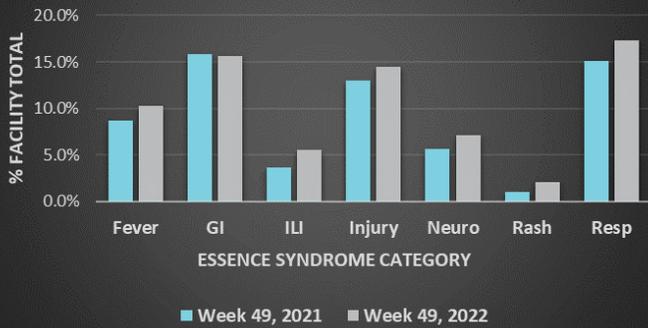


Figure 8: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2022 Week 49 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2549). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

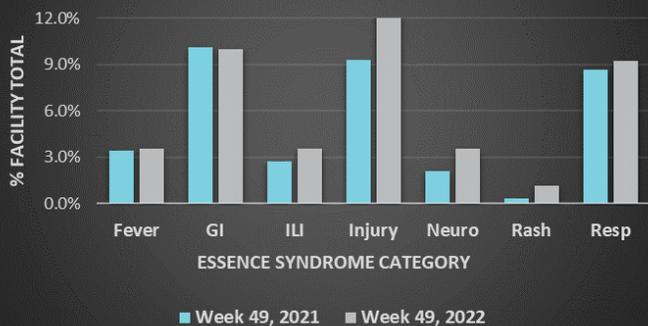
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 49- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	51
5-19	RESP	39
20-34	GI	56
35-54	GI	38
55-74	INJURY	34
75+	INJURY	20

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 49- North Okaloosa Medical Center

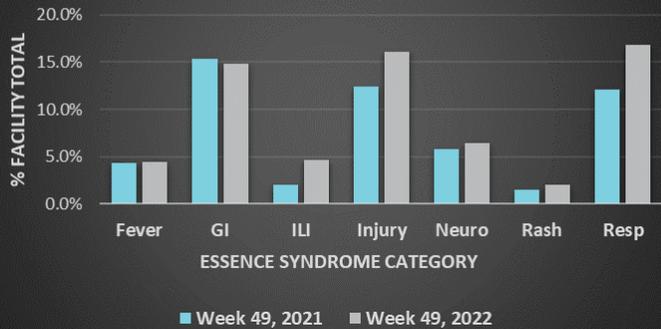
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	17
5-19	INJURY	17
20-34	GI	21
35-54	GI	23
55-74	INJURY	20
75+	INJURY	19



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 49: December 4 - December 10

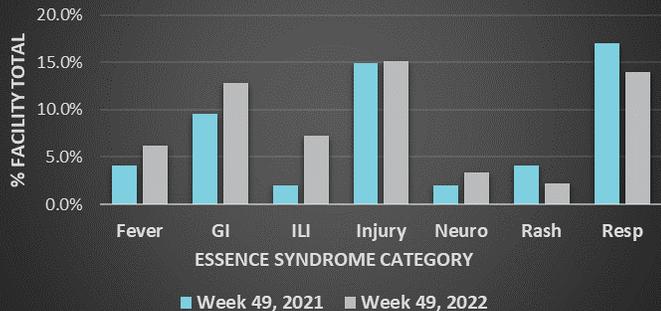
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 49- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	5
5-19	GI	15
20-34	RESP	18
35-54	RESP	16
55-74	INJURY	14
75+	INJURY, RESP	13, 13

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 49- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, INJURY, RESP	3, 3, 3
5-19	RESP	9
20-34	GI	7
35-54	INJURY	9
55-74	INJURY	5
75+	INJURY, RESP	4, 4

Week 49—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	RESP
20-34	GI
35-54	GI
55-74	INJURY
75+	INJURY



Data Source: ESSENCE